

REVIEW

'The Life List' on Netflix struggles with a spiritless story

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Netflix's latest Sofia Carson-starring tearjerker "The Life List" tells the story of a mother-daughter relationship kept alive beyond the grave.

Based on Lori Nelson Spielman's novel of the same name and brought to the small screen by director Adam Brooks, "The Life List" follows Alex (Carson) as she attempts to complete her late mother's teenage bucket list before uncovering family secrets and finding romance.

The mother, played by Connie Britton, brings a semblance of weight to a film that is otherwise up in the air. During a reading of her late mother's will, Alex finds out that in order to attain her inheritance she must first complete her mother's list of childhood goals. Cue 12 months of predictable self-realization with the odd mosh pit thrown in for good measure.

Although she was wonderful in Netflix's hit drama "Carry-On," Carson is a tad disappointing in her latest on-screen endeavor.

The movie spins around a rarely



A still from 'The Life List' on Netflix.

HIGHLIGHT

The movie spins around a rarely dealt with mother-daughter relationship, with some glaring missed opportunities to build out the narrative.

dealt with mother-daughter relationship, but I found some glaring misses. Alex's love story seems spiritless and there is not enough emotion to keep the work moving. We are dealing here with the loss of a parent,

and Brooks treats this far too casually with Carson's polished portrayal of the protagonist at odds with the role.

Subplots are underdeveloped, with Alex's desire to return to teaching after landing in her mother's cosmetics company left underbaked. The lead character's relationship with her father is also left to the wayside in a plot that seems hurried and lacking in depth.

Rather than a 123-minute film, a limited series could have been more impactful.